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RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE

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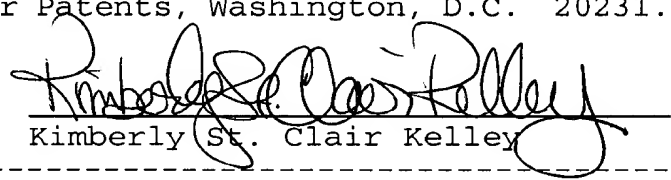
THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : David Mark Whitcombe et al.
Serial No. : 09/700,732
Filing Date : March 19, 2001
Examiner : A. Chakrabarti
Group Art Unit : 1655
Entitled : NUCLEIC ACID SEQUENCE IDENTIFICATION

Suite 720
1601 Market Street
Philadelphia, PA 19103
(215) 563-4100 (telephone)
(215) 563-4044 (facsimile)
Our File No. 0380-P02328US0

Certificate of Mailing Under 37 C.F.R. §1.8(a):

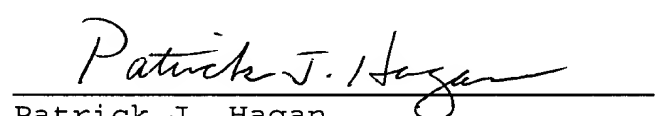
I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited on January 27, 2003 with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope properly addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.


Kimberly St. Clair Kelley

Petition for Extension of Time Under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a):

The undersigned hereby petitions for an extension of time of 2 months beyond the time period set in the last Office Action. A check in the amount of \$410.00 to cover this fee is enclosed. Please charge any deficiency or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 04-1406.

01/31/2003 EAREGAY1 00000084 09700732
01 FC:1232 410.00 OP


Patrick J. Hagan
Attorney for Applicant(s)
Registration No. 27,643